

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10 SY-10 SCA-01

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ IRN: MAGMICHAUD: ML

5/30/73 EXT 20639

APPROVED BY NEA - RODGER P. DAVIES

NEA/ IRN - MR. ROUSE

L/ NEA - MR. BROWN

INR/ OIL - MR. BUFORD (SUBS)

----- 083160

R 302304 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 103917

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR

SUBJECT: NASSER AFSHAR " GHOTLI"

REF: TEHRAN 3581

1. DEPARTMENT AGREES THAT IRAN FREE PRESS IS SCURRILOUS PUBLICATION FILLED WITH LIBELOUS, IRRESPONSIBLE, AND INACCURATE STATEMENTS. HOWEVER, THERE ARE NO LEGAL STEPS USG CAN TAKE AGAINST THIS PAPER UNLESS AND UNTIL IT VIOLATES FEDERAL LAW. IT IS OUR OPINION THAT LEGAL ACTION IN U. S. COURTS INITIATED BY GOI COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

2. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO RESPOND TO MFA ALONG LINES OF PARA FOUR IN REFTEL, STATING THAT YOU ARE SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF HIGH LEVELS WITHIN USG.

3. FYI. WE ARE LOOKING INTO AFSHAR'S BACKGROUND THROUGH APPROPRIATE CHANNELS. END FYI. RUSH
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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